

# YOUR FOREST YOUR ADVENTURE

Spring 2007 • VOL 2 • NO 2



## Jefferson Memorial Forest

11311 Mitchell Hill Road  
PO Box 467  
Fairdale, KY  
40118

502/368-5404

[www.memorialforest.com](http://www.memorialforest.com)  
[www.metro-parks.org](http://www.metro-parks.org)  
[forest@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:forest@louisvilleky.gov)  
[parks@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:parks@louisvilleky.gov)

### Welcome Center

Mon-Sat 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Sun 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Welcome Center  
is your destination  
for maps, gift items,  
program reservations,  
camping reservations,  
permits and  
Forest information.

### Directions

From I-65 south, take the  
Gene Snyder Freeway (I-265)  
west and exit at New Cut Road.  
Turn left, go about one mile,  
and turn right onto  
Mitchell Hill Road.  
Follow the signs to the Forest.

### Mission Statement

The mission of  
Louisville Metro Parks  
is to create  
a City of Parks  
and enhance the  
quality of life for  
citizens of Louisville Metro  
by maintaining and acquiring  
attractive, vibrant parks  
and offering safe, diverse  
recreation programs, and  
protecting these lands  
and resources for  
future generations.

## ALL-TERRAIN DESTRUCTION

The U.S Forest Service has named unmanaged recreation, such as the use of motorized vehicles on public lands, as one of the four primary threats to the health of our nation's forests and grasslands. We have similarly identified the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road vehicles (ORVs) as one of the most significant threats to the health of the Jefferson Memorial Forest. This issue of the Forest Newsletter highlights the severe negative impacts of this type of illegal activity within the Jefferson Memorial Forest and other Metro Parks natural areas, outlines Metro Parks' strategy for dealing with this issue and provides information forest neighbors can use to help Metro Parks in its efforts.

We begin by asking which of the negative impacts is the most significant? Is it the **soil erosion** caused by the churning tires of these extremely powerful machines on the landscape – soil which makes its way into surrounding streams and ultimately degrades water quality and aquatic habitat? Is it the **creation of rogue trails** by these irresponsible individuals – the creation of which puts significant strain on Metro Parks' ability to construct well-designed, and user-friendly trail systems within Louisville Metro? Is it the **tax dollars wasted repairing the damage** caused by ATVs – tax dollars which could be put to much more beneficial uses, such as maintenance of existing facilities and creation of expanded user amenities? Is it the **degraded experience of those using the Forest** for outdoor pursuits including hiking, camping, fishing, and nature study? Or finally, is it the statistics which reveal the **public health cost** of this activity as it relates to death and personal injury of children operating these vehicles without proper knowledge and safety equipment? Kentucky does, after all, have the unique distinction of being number one in the nation in the number of deaths related to ATV operation.

Truth be told, all of these impacts are

significant. And thus Metro Parks is committed to addressing them by working to eliminate this illegal activity within the Louisville Metro Parks system. This has proven to be no easy task. Currently, we rely on the assistance of citizens to report illegal activity, and we rely on the Louisville Metro Police Department to enforce existing regulations addressing off-road vehicle usage on public park property. Despite some successes, Metro Parks must continue to improve our ability to address this damaging activity. The box below outlines Metro Parks' efforts and provides additional information to inform our readers about how they may assist Metro Parks in its efforts, to educate the public about the existing regulations concerning ATVs, and to present responsible ATV riders with a list of regional opportunities for riding ATVs legally.

*Bennett Knox, Park Manager*





## DID YOU KNOW?

Metro Parks is working very closely with Louisville Metro Police to step up deterrence of illegal ATV and off-road activity as well as increase citation and prosecution of offenders within certain areas across the Parks System including at the Jefferson Memorial Forest. Metro Parks is implementing a targeted public education campaign and is providing LMPD Divisions with detailed information regarding specific trouble areas within the Parks system. You can do your part and report any illegal activity by calling MetroSafe at 754-2111. We welcome any information you can provide including details regarding the nature and times of illegal activity you witness. This information can be given anonymously and enables Metro Parks and LMPD to focus our efforts in a targeted way. The following are existing state and local regulations that govern operation of all-terrain vehicles and the penalties or violations.

### STATE OF KENTUCKY REGULATIONS

These are enforced by KY Department of Fish and Wildlife officers who patrol various Metro Parks areas, as well as Louisville Metro Police.

- An ATV cannot be operated on any public highway, roadway, or right-of-way of any public highway or roadway. (\$150 fine)
- An ATV cannot be operated on private property without the consent of the landowner, tenant, or individual responsible for the property. (\$150 fine)
- An ATV cannot be operated on public property unless the governmental agency responsible for the property has approved the use of ATVs. (\$150 fine)
- In addition to the above, there are regulations governing the maximum size of an ATV that can be operated by children under the age of 16 and 12, respectively.
- ATVs are also allowed to cross public roads provided that they do not travel along the road for more than two-tenths of a mile and provided that they meet certain licensing and safety equipment requirements.

### LOUISVILLE METRO ORDINANCES

Chapter 42 of the Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances prohibits the operation of any motor vehicle within any public park except on a roadway or in a parking area. All other state regulations apply. The fine for violating this ordinance is a maximum of \$250, and Metro Parks can file civil charges to require restitution for any damage caused.

### ARE THERE OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR ATV RIDERS?

A search of the internet shows these private and public areas where ATV use is allowed. Metro Parks can't in any way endorse these operations, nor attest to the accuracy of this information. Interested individuals should use this listing as a starting point.

**Big Rock ATV & Dirtbike Park**, Maysville, KY, 606/759-9106

**D & K Offroad Park**, Manchester, KY, 606/598-2776

**Daniel Boone National Forest**, Winchester, KY, 859/745-3100

**Eagle Creek Harescramble Park**, Owenton, KY

**Full Throttle Offroad Madness**, McKee, KY, 606/965

**Harlan County Off-Road Adventure Park**

Evarts, KY, 606/837-3546

**Land Between the Lakes**

Golden Pond, KY, 270/924-2000

**Morehead OHV Route/White Sulphur ATV Trail**

Morehead, KY, 606/784-6428

**Mountain Parkway Off-Road**

Clay City, KY, 606/633-2344

**Redbird OHV routes**, Big Creek, KY, 606/598-2192

**Royal ATV Trails**, Clarkson, KY, 270/242-7211

**S-Tree State Recreation Area**, Livingston, KY, 606/86

**Sharps ATV Riding Range**, Liberty, KY, 606/787-483

**Turkey Foot OHV Route**, Corbin, KY, 606/864-4163







## CANOEING IN KENTUCKY

Canoeing is the slip of a paddle into a stream, the murmur of approaching rapids, the electric scent of whitewater, and the sun lulling us to sleep in still water. Surely a canoe is the perfect medium for partaking of water's grace, and Kentucky offers many canoeing adventures. Though subject to dispute, Kentucky is often cited as second only to Alaska in number of miles of running water.

Where to go if you don't own a canoe? Here are sites within 3 hours of Louisville:

**Floyds Fork Creek** • Opening in 2007, please watch for more information. Put in at the Miles Park Canoe Launch at 15712 Shelbyville Road and take out at the Fisherville Canoe Launch, 14520 Taylorsville Road.  
[www.metro-parks.org](http://www.metro-parks.org)

**Otter Creek Adventures**  
Trips on Muddy and Otter Creeks and the Kentucky River, around 1 hour and 45 minutes from Louisville  
[www.kyadventure.com](http://www.kyadventure.com)

**Kentucky River Otter Outpost**  
Trips on the Kentucky River.  
1-859/699-3400 • [www.kyriver.com](http://www.kyriver.com)

**Cave Run Bicycle and Outdoor Center**  
Trips on the Licking River, about 2 hours from Louisville. 1-606/784-1818  
[www.caverunbikeshop.com](http://www.caverunbikeshop.com)

**Thaxton's Canoe Trails** • Trips on the Licking River, about 2 and a half hours from Louisville. 1-859/472-2000  
[www.gopaddling.com](http://www.gopaddling.com)

**Rockcastle Adventures Canoe Livery**  
Trips on the Rockcastle River, about 2 and a half hours from Louisville.  
1-606/864-9407



**Otter Creek Park** • Trips on Otter Creek, about 45 minutes from Louisville.  
502/574-4583 • [www.ottercreekpark.org](http://www.ottercreekpark.org)

**Canoe Kentucky** • Trips on Elkhorn creek, around 1 hour from Louisville.  
1-888/CANOEKY • [www.canoe-ky.com](http://www.canoe-ky.com)

**Big Buffalo Crossing** • Trips on the Green River, 1 hour 15 minutes from Louisville.  
1-866/233-2690  
[www.bigbuffalocrossing.com](http://www.bigbuffalocrossing.com)

**Mammoth Cave Canoe and Kayak**  
Green River trips, 1 and a half hours from Louisville. 1-877/592-2663  
[www.mammothcavecanoe-k.com](http://www.mammothcavecanoe-k.com)

**Palisades Area** • About 1 hour and 45 minutes from Louisville.

**Red River Outdoors** • Trips on Kentucky's only national wild and scenic river, about 2 hours from Louisville.  
1-859/230-3567  
[www.redriveroutdoors.com](http://www.redriveroutdoors.com)

**Barren River Canoe Rentals**  
Flatwater trips on the Barren River, 2 hours from Louisville. 1-888/680-6580  
[www.kywater.net](http://www.kywater.net)

**Tradewater Canoe Livery** • Flatwater trips on the Tradewater River, about 2 and a half hours from Louisville.  
1-270/853-7464  
[www.dawsonspringsky.com](http://www.dawsonspringsky.com)

**Sheltowee Trace Outfitters** • Offering trips on the Cumberland and Big South Fork rivers, about 3 hours from Louisville.  
1-800/541-7238 • [www.ky-rafting.com](http://www.ky-rafting.com)

And don't forget the Jefferson Memorial Forest! Though there are no navigable streams within the Forest, don't miss our Outdoor Skills Canoeing program May 5 (see page 5), when we will take a trip on Floyds Fork Creek.



## PUBLIC PROGRAM SCHEDULE: APRIL, MAY AND JUNE

We offer a wide array of programs for all ages. For more information visit our website or call the Welcome Center at 502/368-5404. Our staff will be happy to help you make reservations, give you directions to the program location, or provide you a complete schedule of our programs throughout the year. For all programs, please wear close-toed walking shoes, and dress for the weather.

Reservations are required in advance. The Forest reserves the right to cancel programs with insufficient registration.

Rain checks will be provided.

### SPRING BIRD WATCHING - SENIOR CITIZENS PROGRAM

**Mon, April 9, 9 am.-12:30 p.m.**

Birds are returning from southern regions to summer homes; you may have spotted a few passing through. This outing will include an easy walk through forested areas. Program meets at the Welcome Center. Shuttle service will be provided to all locations. Bring money for lunch at a local restaurant. Free

### FOREST FAMILY CAMP-OUTS

How would you like a family camping trip without the packing and preparation? Let Jefferson Memorial Forest do everything for you, and enjoy an evening of activities and entertainment. Metro Parks provides tents, fresh sleeping bags, dinner, s'mores bedtime treat and breakfast, and a night hike full of facts and fun. Bring a toothbrush, pillow, walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothes. Program is for ages 7 to adult, and meets at the Horine Reservation. Fee: \$20 per person. Ask about our next-day Alpine Tower Climb discount.

#### CAMPING FUN

**Fri, May 25-Sat, May 26  
6 p.m. Fri-8:30 a.m. Sat**

Learn the basics of camping while enjoying a variety of fun campsite activities. Program also includes a night hike and evening games. You must preregister by May 21.

#### AMERICAN EXPLORERS

**Fri, June 22-Sat, June 23  
6 p.m. Friday until 8:30 a.m. Saturday**

Spend an evening under the stars and experience the forests of Louisville Metro the way early explorers did as they set out on one of the great adventures in American history. Learn how they survived in the wilderness, and hear stories about a few of these brave individuals. You must preregister by June 18.

### PRESCHOOL NATURE ADVENTURES

This program is for parents and children ages 2 to 4. There will be a story-time with craft and snacks. This program provides experiences in nature for parents and little ones to share. Program meets in the Horine Environmental Education Center. Fee: \$8 per child.

#### APRIL FOOLS: ANIMAL MIMICRY

**Tue, April 3, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

**Sat, April 14, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

Bring your little ones to the Forest to discover the ways animals trick each other. Many appear to be something they are not, to fool others and escape danger.

#### THE SMALL SMALL POND

**Tue, May 1, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

**Sat, May 12, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

Children will explore a pond ecosystem and all of the critters that call it home. They will be able to collect specimens and study them under a magnifying glass.

#### WHAT'S BUZZIN'?

**Tue, June 5, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

**Sat, June 9, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

Why are insects important? That is what students will discover as a Metro Parks naturalist helps them collect and identify everyday bugs in fun and educational activities.

### ALPINE TOWER PUBLIC PROGRAM

**Sat, May 26, 9 am.-1:30 p.m.**

**Sat, June 23, 9 am.-1:30 p.m.**

Challenge yourself on our 52-foot Alpine climbing tower. Learn basic climbing and belaying techniques while experiencing increased self-esteem, confidence, and problem-solving skills from tackling this "high altitude" obstacle course. This program is for ages 10 and up. A parent or guardian must accompany all participants under the age of 18. Please wear: tennis shoes, long pants, or shorts (with inseam greater than 5"). Sign-up early as space is limited to 18 participants. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: \$10 per person

### COME CELEBRATE NATIONAL TRAILS DAY AT THE FOREST!

**Sat, June 2, 9 am.-4 p.m.**

Join us here at the Forest to celebrate all the benefits we receive from our hiking trails! Call our Welcome Center at 368-5404 to find out about the volunteer events taking place. Free







## PUBLIC PROGRAM SCHEDULE: APRIL, MAY AND JUNE

### OUTDOOR SKILLS

Program meets at the Welcome Center.

#### #4 – SPRING WILDFLOWERS

**Sat, April 7, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Witness the explosion of color that comes to the Forest each spring. Learn to identify the native wildflowers that contribute to the profusion of color that decorates the Forest. A hike guided by a Metro Parks naturalist will be a part of this program. Participants are welcome to bring a beverage, snack, and their own guidebooks if they wish. Fee: \$5

#### #5 – CANOEING

**Sat, May 5, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**

See the beauty of nature as you paddle down one of the many beautiful streams in one of your Metro Parks. All equipment will be provided. Bring a sack lunch. For ages 7 and up. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Program meets at the Welcome Center. Register early as space is very limited for this special program! Due to specific space requirements, preregistration and prepayment are mandatory. No space will be available for individuals showing up on the day of the program. There is space for 16 participants total with a maximum of 10 adults. Fee: \$10

#### #6 – BIRD WATCHING

**Sat, June 2, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.**

Learn about the birds of Kentucky and how to find them. Forest staff will share some of the great places to view birds and how to use a bird guide to identify the birds you see. Families are welcome with children 8 years and older. An adult must accompany children. Program meets in the Welcome Center. Fee: \$5

### EVENING PROGRAMS

Program meets in the Horine Reservation. Fee: \$5

#### FROG CALLS AND TOAD SONGS

**Fri, April 13, 7-9:30 p.m.**

The night is the best time to hear the calls and songs of the amphibian world. Metro Parks staff will introduce you to some of the more common species of frogs and toads found in this area and teach you how to identify them by their calls, and why their existence is so crucial to that of our own. You will even learn how to make some calls of your own to communicate with these incredible creatures.

#### NIGHT KEEPERS: LEGENDS AND LORE OF THE NIGHT SKY

**Fri, May 11, 7-9:30 p.m.**

Join staff of Jefferson Memorial Forest as they share some of the stories and myths that Native Americans and other cultures told to explain the constellations that we see today. Families are welcome. A delicious s'mores treat will be provided around a campfire.

#### BATS

**Fri, June 8, 7-9:30 p.m.**

A creature stalks Louisville in the darkness, swiftly swooping in on hundreds of victims each night. Not that you should be afraid, as bats only eat bugs in Kentucky. Learn to distinguish the truth from the myths that surround these beneficial little creatures. Come to the Forest to see the flying mammal that lends its name to our city's baseball team.

#### HOWL AT THE MOON

**Fri, April 20, 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Fri, May 18, 7-8:30 p.m.**

**Fri, June 15, 7-8:30 p.m.**

Come out to the Forest for an evening romp through the woods with your dog! Metro Parks staff will lead owners and their pooches on a hike through the woods. Keep in mind that your dog will be around other dogs and people. As a courtesy to other dogs, make sure your dog is up-to-date on all of their vaccinations. Non-retractable leashes and good behavior are required. Fee: \$5 per dog



# NATURAL AREAS VIPs • VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS

## VIP News

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PICNIC PLANNED

In order to show our appreciation for all that our current volunteers do in service to the Forest and other natural areas, we cordially invite all volunteers who have formally dedicated their time in 2007 to the Forest's first annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. The picnic will be held in the Environmental Education area field located in the Horine Reservation on June 16, 2007, noon to 5:00 p.m. Join us for a day of games, door prizes, fun and good food – grilled by staff while you sit back and relax. Please call the Welcome Center at 368-5404, ext. 0 by Wednesday, June 6, to RSVP yourself and one guest. It's our way of saying Thanks for All You Do!

### VOLUNTEER PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS!

The Natural Areas Region is pleased to announce upcoming improvements to our volunteer program. With the addition of our new Landscaping Supervisor, the forest now has five separate areas of operation and is introducing distinct volunteer opportunities within these areas including formal volunteer positions and training opportunities. These areas and new volunteer position descriptions are as follows:

**Program Area:** Program Volunteer, Animal Care Volunteer, Garden Volunteer, Camp-out Aides, Fishing Program Aides, Public Program Aide, Invasive Plant Removal Aide

**Land Management:** Ecological Restoration Volunteer Leader, Ecological Restoration Volunteer

**Trail Management:** Trail Ranger (Patrols), Trail Crew Leader (Construction), Trail Crew Volunteer (Construction)

**Welcome Center:** Forest Ambassador

**Maintenance:** Special volunteer events (e.g., litter sweeps)

In an effort to better acquaint interested folks with volunteer opportunities at the forest, we invite interested individuals to visit our forest booth between 1 and 3 p.m. during Forest Fest on Saturday, May 19. During that time, Forest staff will be on hand to discuss all of the volunteer positions we offer and answer any questions you may have. Please visit our website beginning in May 2007 for more information our program.

### INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL PROJECT DAY!

On Saturday, March 10, the Forest benefited from the enthusiastic energy and work of 3 groups from U of L. This was for the Forest's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, the Green Thumbs, and Campus Crusade came out and went straight to work, removing such invasive plants as bush honeysuckle, Japanese honeysuckle vine and multi-floral rose from around the environmental education area. This is of great importance as it allows participants in our programs to see and experience the forest in its natural state. The day was made possible by the generous funding provided by Councilwoman Vicki Welch D-13. Her funds purchased tools and supplies that we will provide our volunteers for future project days. If you work with a group that needs a volunteer project, please contact Laura Ryan, Metro Parks Volunteer Coordinator at 456-8156.

## VOLUNTEER POSITION OPENINGS

### ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION VOLUNTEER

We are seeking volunteers to perform restoration work within Metro Parks' natural areas. Candidates should be dependable nature enthusiasts. Preferred qualifications are competent plant identification skills (or desire to develop), gardening experience, and high tolerance for manual labor in inclement conditions. Restorative actions will include invasive plant management, planting of native plant material, and soil stabilization.

Volunteers will receive training on tool safety and the application of benign herbicides. We are seeking a commitment of at least 8-24 hours a month over a one year period. Please contact David Fothergill, Landscaping Supervisor II, office 502/361-2918 or cell 502/664-9062 for more information.







## NATURAL AREAS VIPs • VOLUNTEERS IN PARKS



### VOLUNTEER CALENDAR PROGRAM AREA OPPORTUNITIES

#### GARDENING IN JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST'S NATIVE GARDENS

**Mon, April 2, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Mon, May 7, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Mon, June 4, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Naturalist Christa Weidner will guide participants in a variety of informative garden projects to improve the beauty of the Forest's Native and Butterfly Gardens. There will be things to learn, as participants do such things as light weeding, transplanting, and pruning. Wear comfortable clothes suitable for the outdoors and closed-toed shoes. Participants are welcome to bring garden gloves, but we will have extra on hand. Cold water will be provided. Meets at the Horine Environmental Education Center. Fee: Free and open to adults

#### ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION TEAM - VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAYS

For information on these opportunities and how to join our team of Ecological Restoration Volunteers, please contact David Fothergill, Landscaping Supervisor II, office 502/361-2918 or cell 502/664-9062.

#### Waverly Park Sat, April 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Playground Parking Lot

Dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to get dirty. We will work to curb the advance of invasive plants along the road. Bring your mountain bike

and afterwards ride Waverly's phenomenal trail system. Gloves will be provided; bring your own lunch. Rain or Shine.

#### Jefferson Memorial Forest Sat, May 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Welcome Center

Dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to get dirty. We will work on eradicating invasive plant populations. Afterwards, we will take a walk and admire spring ephemeral wildflowers. Gloves will be provided; bring your own lunch. Rain or Shine.

#### Jefferson Memorial Forest Sat, June 30, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Welcome Center

Dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to get dirty. We will work on eradicating invasive plant populations. Afterwards, we will take a walk and see what we can see. Gloves will be provided; bring your own lunch. Rain or Shine.

#### TRAIL RANGER AND TRAIL CREW - VOLUNTEER PROJECT DAYS

For information on these opportunities and how to join either our Trail Rangers patrol group or Trail Construction Crew, please contact Larry Hilton, Naturalist, office 502/361-0119 or cell 502/797-5768.

#### Sat, April 14, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Meet at the Welcome Center. Trail Ranger John Dieruf will show us how to tie some useful knots. Come dressed to patrol/document and GPS trails at the Moreman Hill/Dodge Hill section of the Forest.

#### Sat, May 12, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Meet at the Welcome Center - Trail Ranger patrols will be assigned to various sections of the forest to report on trail issues and the Trail Crew will be assigned to work on relocation and realignment of a portion of the Siltstone Trail.

#### Mon, May 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Meet at the Welcome Center - Trail Ranger patrols will continue work assigned to various sections of the forest to report on trail issues. The Trail Crew assigned will continue work on Siltstone Trail relocation and realignment.

#### VOLUNTEER PROJECTS OPPORTUNITIES (EAGLE SCOUTS, GOLD AND SILVER AWARD PROJECTS)

Design/install rock steps on red trail near the Horine Cemetery. Replace broken handles, sharpen and lubricate hand tools used for trail work. Document and remove invasive plants from trails in various Natural Areas sections. Replace crosstie retaining wall with rock at shelter. Raise existing bull rails and install some new bull rails on Tulip Tree Trail. Remove graffiti.

Persons interested in the above should contact Larry Hilton, Naturalist, at 502/797-5768.

#### ELIMINATE WASTE AND GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL!

Help to save trees and keep costs down by emailing [forest@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:forest@louisvilleky.gov), with the request "subscribe to newsletter." Include your name and the mailing address where you received this issue, and you'll receive only electronic copies of future newsletters.



## NATURAL AREAS NEWS

### CONTROLLED BURN CONDUCTED AT TYLER-SCHOOLING PROPERTY

On March 22, Natural Areas Division staff based at the Jefferson Memorial Forest conducted a controlled burn at the Tyler-Schooling Property near Floyd's Fork Park in eastern Jefferson County. Working in close coordination with the Jeffersontown Fire Department and with participation from the Metro Parks Landscaping Division and the Olmsted Conservancy. The burn was part of the resource management prescription for that property. In 2004, Metro Parks planted 16 acres of old agricultural fields in a mixture of native wildflowers and native warm season grasses under the Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. The Tyler-Schooling property is part of the 21st Century Parks project to develop a 27-mile trail corridor and additional park properties situated in the Floyd's Fork corridor.



*Images from the Tyler-Schooling Property controlled burn, held March 22.*

### JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

In an effort to continually improve the sustainability of the Forest's trail system and eliminate sections of trail that are too steep and prone to erosion, Larry Hilton, Naturalist and his crew of volunteers have initiated a number of trail projects including trail alignment improvements in the Scott's Gap Section of the forest at the trailhead west of the parking area and in the Tom Wallace section along Siltstone Trail from the Welcome Center to Jefferson Hill Road. In addition, Forest staff have developed a draft plan to reroute and realign trails and improve trail signage in the Paul Yost Section to create sustainable trail and improve the trail user experience. This planning effort will be incorporated into the Forest Master Plan process which will commence this year and which will address additional visitor amenity improvements in the Paul Yost and other sections of the Forest. The Forest will soon be installing long-overdue information kiosks near the main trailheads in the Scott's Gap and Paul Yost sections of the Forest to provide hikers, particularly those new to the Forest, with useful information.

## INVASIVE PLANTS, PART TWO

As explained in the fall 2006 newsletter, one of the threats at Jefferson Memorial Forest is invasive plants, and we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the Forest's general strategy for dealing with invasive plant species.

The first step in the control of invasive plants is awareness. We need to be aware of which species are invading, where these species are, and the size of the infestation. This allows us to develop a prioritized action plan. For example, an invasive plant population's location or reproductive biology might make it more of an immediate threat than another. After prioritization, we can then address each threat methodically with the greatest efficacy and least amount of resource input.

However, due to the fragmented nature of our forest, we need your help. The forest has many neighbors and devoted users. If someone notices a population of invasive plants along a trail or boundary somewhere in the Forest, please contact us. If you are unsure of the species, we can help identify the plant and move forward together. Through an integrated approach to this severe threat, we can all help preserve the quality of the Forest's vegetation.

We are in the process of restructuring and expanding our volunteer program. Please refer to the "Volunteers In Parks" section on pages 6 and 7 in this newsletter to find out how you can help. Volunteers assisting with invasive plant removal will spend exciting work days in the field, combating invasive plants as well as honing our knowledge of our native plants.

To discuss exotic or native plants in the Forest, please contact David Fothergill, Landscape Supervisor II: office, 502/361-2918; cell, 502/664-9062; email, [david.fothergill@louisvilleky.gov](mailto:david.fothergill@louisvilleky.gov)





WAL★MART

PRESENT

# FOREST FEST

**Jefferson Memorial Forest**

12304 Holsclaw Hill Road - Fairdale KY 40115

**Saturday, May 19, 2007**

**10:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

**B**luegrass Music, wood crafters,  
and activities for the whole family!  
With music by favorites:

- Bluegrass 101
- Kentucky Sassafras
- Hog Operation
- Stone Hollow
- Murell Thixton & Friends

With down-home cookin' provided  
by the Fairdale Lion's Club and  
desserts by Ehrler's Ice Cream.



**Enter to Win**

A Martin D-11  
Resonated Guitars  
- retail value \$669

**FIRST  
QUALITY  
MUSIC**

**FREE  
EVENT!**

For more information,  
call 866-5404 ext. 0  
or visit us online at  
[www.memorialforest.com](http://www.memorialforest.com)



**METRO  
Parks**  
[www.metro-parks.org](http://www.metro-parks.org)

**PicPac**



Fairdale-McDaniel  
Funeral Home

Event is free to the public and made possible by the generous support of Metro Council members **Vicki Welch** (District 13), **Rick Blackwell** (District 12), **Bob Henderson** (District 14) and **Madonna Flood** (District 24); **Wal-Mart/Sam's Club**; **Fairdale Pic Pac**; **Fairdale-McDaniel Funeral Home**; and **First Quality Music**. If you are interested in learning more about this wonderful sponsorship opportunity, please contact Andrew Crocker at 502/456-1857.

We are also looking for talented wood crafters and artists to participate in the Wood Crafters' Showcase. If you are interested in having a booth to sell your wood crafts, please contact Tonya Swan at 502/366-5432.



## NATURALIST'S NOTEBOOK, APRIL-MAY

### APRIL

Bobcats, coyotes, groundhogs, muskrats and raccoons are being born.

Wood ducks hatch.

Turkeys mating; hens begin incubating eggs, which hatch after 28 days.

Woodcock broods appear.

Wildflowers begin to bloom; look for these on the Horine Reservation Blue Trail:

Bloodroot	Twin leaf
Blue cohosh	Wild geranium
Cut-leaf toothwort	Wild ginger
May apple	

### MAY

Hummingbirds begin to arrive; hang feeders.

Monarch butterflies are laying eggs on milkweed.

Peak of spring warbler migration.

Second rabbit clutches begin to appear.

Wildflowers to see in the Native Garden:

Bellwort	Jack-in-the-pulpit
Blue phlox	Shooting star
Crested Dwarf Iris	Wild Columbine

### JUNE

Blue catfish spawn.

Box and snapping turtles are laying eggs.

Hellgrammites begin changing into dobsonflies on stream banks

Whitetail fawns being born. A mother may leave a fawn alone, but will usually be nearby and will return. Do not touch a fawn if you find one; human scent may cause the mother to desert it.

Check [www.kentuckyawake.org](http://www.kentuckyawake.org) for more information.

Wildflowers:

Fire pink  
Indian physic  
Lizard's tail  
Squawroot  
Yellow passion-flower

## SUMMER 2007 ADVENTURES

Jefferson Memorial Forest summer camps are back with two great new additions! Our Summer Adventures for ages 7 to 12 have been so well received, we've added two new camps: **Forest Explorers** for ages 5 to 6 and **Teen Quest** for ages 13 to 15. Registration instructions are on the facing page.

### FOREST EXPLORERS • AGES 5-6

Camp provides an introduction to the natural world, teaching kids to search for animal tracks, discover the world of insects, find life in pond water, and hike trails. Through stories, crafts and hands-on activities, they will discover the animals living in the Forest and their habitats. Campers receive t-shirts. Sessions last 1 week, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. each day. **June 25-29**

### SUMMER ADVENTURES • AGES 7-12

Provides an immersion experience in the natural world, where children become naturalists, scientists and explorers to discover new things about the forest and the creatures within it. Combining educational activities and experiences with traditional summer camp fun, camps will provide an adventure to remember for a lifetime.

Activities: nature study, crafts, experiments, games, journaling, hikes and animal contact. Campers receive water bottles and t-shirts. Sessions last 1 week, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.

### FOREST ADVENTURES

Is your child an explorer craving adventure? They are sure to find it here! Campers will explore trails deep in the Forest, climb our Alpine Tower, and learn rappelling skills. They will learn fire and shelter building, and using a map and compass.

**June 4-9 and July 9-13**

### CREATURE TREKKING

Campers will explore forests, fields, meadows and streams, including a field trip to Otter Creek Park's caves to learn about the creatures there. Kids will learn how to track animals, and discover what they tell us about ourselves and the world around us.

**June 11-15 and July 16-20**

### AQUATIC HABITATS

Campers explore and learn about watersheds, while discovering the world of an aquatic ecosystem. They will take part in crafts, journaling and experiments, including a canoe excursion on a Metro Parks lake. Life jackets will be provided, and certified staff will accompany campers in a 1:3 ratio. Parents are welcome to join this field trip.

**June 18-22 and July 23-27**

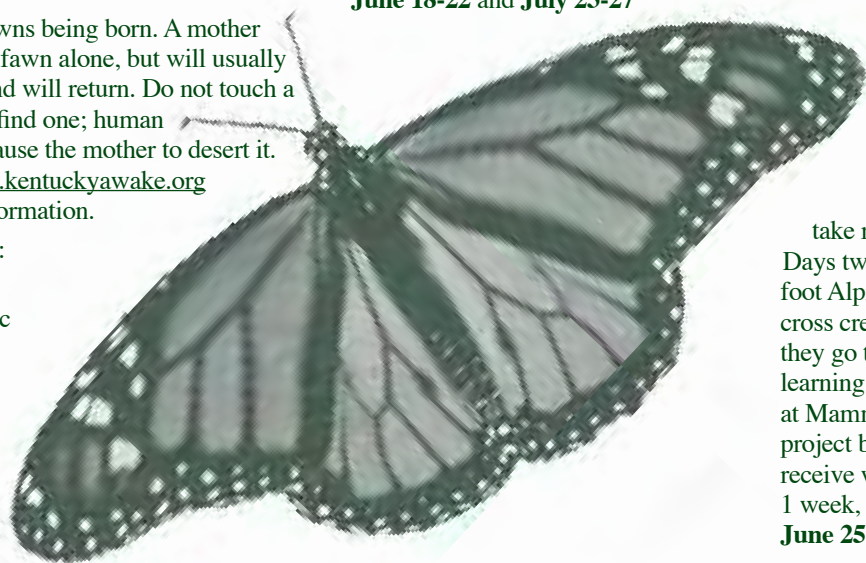
### TEEN QUEST • AGES 13-15

Camp introduces kids to safe outdoor adventures, beginning with challenges designed to teach

how to work well together in teams, take responsibility and actively participate.

Days two and three involve climbing our 50-foot Alpine Tower, learning to climb ropes and cross crevasses, and canoeing. On Thursday, they go to Mammoth Cave and explore while learning caving techniques. They'll camp out at Mammoth Cave, then do a small service project before returning to the Forest. Campers receive water bottles and t-shirts. Sessions last 1 week, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.

**June 25-29**







## SUMMER CAMPS COST AND REGISTRATION

### COST PER CHILD PER WEEK

**Forest Adventures (ages 7-12): \$105**

**Forest Quest (ages 13-15): \$175**

**Forest Explorers (ages 5-6): \$75**

Sessions are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Full payment is required at registration; payment and the registration form are required prior to the first day of camp. You will be notified if a session is full or has been cancelled; confirmation will be mailed or emailed prior to the beginning of camp.

If you would like your child to be grouped with a sibling or friend, please indicate this on the registration form; this can't be guaranteed if the children are in different age groups or if space isn't available. Note that Summer Adventure sessions have various themes and repeat each month, and that Summer Adventure campers will be grouped ages 7 to 9, and ages 10 to 12.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS AND REFUNDS

Register with check by mail or by credit card over the phone. Price includes all supplies, water bottle, and small snack. Make checks payable to Jefferson Memorial Forest. Include the session dates that your child is attending on the check. Refunds, less a \$25 processing fee, are given only if cancellation is made in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp. If a camp is filled or cancelled, full refund will be made to you. Camps are subject to maximum and minimum enrollment requirements.

### DROP OFF

Drop-off is located in the main parking lot, where camp leaders will greet campers. Drop-off begins at 8:30 a.m.; for children age 5 to 6, drop-off begins at 9:30 a.m. No camper may be dropped off prior to 8:30.

### PICK UP

Staff members dismiss children age 5 to 6 at 2:00 p.m. All others will be at the main parking lot at 4 p.m. Staff will stay with campers for 30 minutes. If a camper has not been picked up, staff will take them to the program office, located at the front of the Horine Reservation to the left of the road.

For more information, call the Forest Welcome Center at 502/368-5404, ext. 0, or go to our website at [www.memorialforest.com](http://www.memorialforest.com).

## 2007 JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration fee must accompany this registration form. Make checks payable to Jefferson Memorial Forest. When registering more than one child, send the information for each child on a separate form. Mail check and registration to:

**Jefferson Memorial Forest • Summer Camp • PO Box 467 • Fairdale, KY 40118**

FOREST ADVENTURES*	CREATURE TREKKING*	AQUATIC HABITATS*	FOREST QUEST	FOREST EXPLORERS
<input type="checkbox"/> June 4-8	<input type="checkbox"/> June 11-15	<input type="checkbox"/> June 18-22	<input type="checkbox"/> June 25-29	<input type="checkbox"/> June 25-29
<input type="checkbox"/> July 9-13	<input type="checkbox"/> July 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/> July 23-27	[ages 13-15]	[ages 5-6]
\$105	\$105	\$105	\$175	\$75

\*The sessions in June repeat in July. Price is per week.

Child's last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's first name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: ☐ M / ☐ F      Age: \_\_\_\_\_      Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your child's T-shirt size:      ☐ XS      ☐ S      ☐ M      ☐ L      ☐ XL

Is there a friend/sibling you would like placed with your child? (This cannot be guaranteed if children are in different age groups or if space is not available.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have any health concerns, special needs or allergies?

\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize Jefferson Memorial Forest/Metro Parks to take any steps necessary to ensure my child's health in case of an emergency, including seeking medical treatment. My child has permission to go on all camp-sponsored field trips. I understand that transportation will be by van with a staff driver for all field trips.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize Jefferson Memorial Forest/Metro Parks to use my child's name and/or image for educational and public relations purposes.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check      Amount paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Check number: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Credit Card      ☐ Master Card      ☐ Visa

Name on the card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Jefferson Memorial Forest  
11311 Mitchell Hill Road  
PO Box 467  
Fairdale, KY 40118

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Jerry E. Abramson, Mayor  
Louisville Metro Council

## COME WORK AT THE FOREST!

Jefferson Memorial Forest is accepting applications for the following temporary positions.

### LAND MANAGEMENT AIDE

*Duties:* Trail construction and maintenance;  
assist with meadow and woodland restoration,  
including tree planting and removal of invasive species.

Basic plant identification skill; chainsaw operation beneficial.  
Minimum 18 years of age.

### WELCOME CENTER OFFICE ASSISTANT

*Duties:* Provide information to park visitors;  
assist in gift shop; light office work.

Weekend availability;  
office and computer skills helpful.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.METRO-PARKS.ORG](http://WWW.METRO-PARKS.ORG).

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 368-6856 OR VISIT [WWW.MEMORIALFOREST.COM](http://WWW.MEMORIALFOREST.COM)



**METRO  
Parks**

*Metro Parks is an equal-opportunity employer*

**Metro Parks**  
[www.metro-parks.org](http://www.metro-parks.org)

Michael J. Heltz, MA  
Director

Jerry Brown  
Assistant Director

Bennett Knox  
Park Manager

Larry Hilton  
Naturalist/  
Land Management

Tonya Swann  
Coordinator of  
Public Education

Christa Waldner  
Naturalist Programs

James Crockett  
Shawn Novins  
Recreation  
Coordinators